

## WHY...

a Benefit Ball for the Hospital?

Answering the Critics.

By Grover C. Whyte

Why is it necessary to have a benefit ball each year for the Torrance Memorial Hospital? This is a question that some are asking when approached to purchase tickets for the fifth annual benefit dance to be held Saturday, February 18, at the Civic Auditorium.

Obviously, those who ask such a question are unconcerned concerning the costs of operating hospitals, anywhere, as it is a well known fact that even the large metropolitan hospitals— which incidentally charge higher rates than the Torrance hospital— operate each year at a huge loss, running into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Were it not for the philanthropies of wealthy persons, such large hospitals could not operate.

It is true that Mr. Jared Sidney Torrance left an endowment for the local hospital, but the revenue from this endowment has been greatly reduced due to the depression and excessive corporation taxes which eat up funds which would otherwise be paid to the hospital.

But, why does it cost so much to run a hospital, you ask?

Let us make a simple comparison. If you stay at a first class hotel, you pay \$3.50 per day, without meals. If you go to an American plan hotel, your rate with meals will be at least \$5 per day, and in many such resort hotels the minimum rate is \$12 per day per person.

Must Keep in Step With Medical Science

In a first grade "class A" hospital such as the Torrance Memorial, you are given a good room, fine meals, and other services provided by a nurse, and IN ADDITION, you receive the services of a trained nurse and dietitian, balanced maintaining such costly equipment as surgical rooms, x-ray laboratory, electro-therapy, close at hand for use in case of necessity.

And yet the cost of accommodations in a four-bed room in your local hospital is only \$4.00 per day and in a private room, \$7 per day.

Furthermore, there is the constant expense of adding new equipment to keep abreast of developments in medical science. And it is this latter expense that the hospital staff endeavors to meet thru the annual benefit party.

Former benefits have made possible the purchase of such equipment as a new delivery bed, baby incubator, basal metabolism diagnostic equipment, splints for bone fractures, etc.

Service and Staff Above Criticism

The present need is for funds to purchase a new "split-type" operating table and to insulate the x-ray equipment so that it will be shock-proof. It is hoped that sufficient money will be realized from the benefit ball to provide at least one of these improvements.

Torrance has reason to be proud of its fine hospital, which continues to measure up to the high standards of the American College of Surgeons and is designated a "Class A" institution.

It is significant that the criticism which is being encountered by members of the National Business and Professional Women's club who have so kindly undertaken the sale of the benefit ball tickets is almost entirely confined to financial questions. Not one complaint has been made concerning the service rendered by the hospital and its staff under the able supervision of Miss Esther Z. Maxwell.

It is also significant that what criticism is made of hospital rates invariably comes from those who have not had experience with other first class hospitals.

Keep That Helping Hand Strong, Ready

This can mean but one thing. Those who criticize do not have full knowledge of the facts, and we make this statement in all kindness and with the sincere hope that the information given above will prompt these people to investigate other hospitals' charges before criticizing the Torrance institution, for indeed the charges for x-ray and like services at the local hospital are considerably less

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR

# PLAYERS' GROUP WILL ORGANIZE HERE

## Participants Bid to Meet Feb. 20

Twenty-seven keenly interested men and women, representatives of some 17 city organizations, unanimously approved the creation of a Torrance Community Players' group at a meeting in the Chamber of Commerce Monday night. They discussed the organization of the thespian troupe from many angles and agreed that as a recreational project to interest both young and old, amateur theatricals would have a wide appeal.

It was decided to invite everyone in dramatic art— young and old—to a meeting in the city council chambers Monday night, Feb. 20, at 8 o'clock. Those who would like to act, direct, design scenery or costume, apply make-up or handle any of the business affairs of the Torrance Community Players are urged to attend this session in the city hall.

The Feb. 20 gathering is expected to reveal just how many local residents are desirous of participating in Players' activities and to result in the formation of an advisory council to handle productions and promotion. It was pointed out at the meeting this week that the Feb. 20 session would not be a public mass meeting but confined to those who are eager to enter into one or more departments of amateur dramatics.

Two Financing Plans City Councilman Tom McGuire presided at the meeting Monday night. When the matter of financing a Players' group here was broached, two opinions were revealed. One was that the city should subsidize the recreational venture to the extent of \$100 for an initial production. The second maintained that voluntary subscriptions should be taken up to launch the project. No decision was reached on the financial end of the matter, the group preferring to await a recommendation from the advisory council to be elected Feb. 20.

Among those who took an active part in the Monday evening discussion were Principal Thomas Elson of the high school, J. E. Miller of the Coordinating Council, Sam Levy, L. J. Gilmeister, and Mr. Evans who has had some experience with community theatricals in Redondo Beach, and William G. Faris, who has offered to direct the local group for a percentage of the net box office receipts.

Representatives of the following organizations were present: Coordinating Council, Women of the Moose, Woman's Relief Corps, Walthers Civic Association, C. I. Lodge, Chamber of Commerce, Episcopal Men's club, American Legion, Post and Auxiliary, National Business and Professional

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than at hospitals in the metropolitan area.

As nearly everyone knows, the Torrance Memorial Hospital is a non-profit institution, community owned; so that when you help your own hospital, you are helping provide better facilities for yourself and your family. We never know who is going to be the next to need its helping hand.

So let's all support the benefit ball and help make our fine hospital even better.

## DENTIN

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## 11 Past-Presxies Recall Kiwanis Club History

Torrance Kiwanians turned back the pages of club history last Monday night and found a great many laughs to enjoy as 11 former club leaders participated in the service groups' first Past-Presidents' Night. The program, although an overture, proved to be one of the most interesting in many months.

All of the living past presidents of the club were present to recall the days when they handled the gavel and directed the organization which was founded here in September, 1925, by 37 men.

Many tributes were paid the late James Leach, first president of the Kiwanis club, and the late Jens R. Jensen, its third leader. Charles C. Schultz, president in 1937, started the flow of reminiscences which were continued by L. J. Acree, 1929; C. T. Rippey, 1930; Sam Rappaport, 1931, who returned to the club for the meeting—his first visit in nearly eight years; Henry F. Uhrig, 1932; Dr. R. F. Bishop, 1933; L. J. Gilmeister, 1934; Alden W. Smith, 1935; William B. Shawger, 1936; Robert J. Deinger, 1937; and Earl Corner, 1938.

Michael Strasser, first vice-president of the club this year, introduced the past presidents. Next Monday night the Kiwanians will see several reels of sound motion pictures presented thru the courtesy of Ed Thompson and the Chevrolet company.

## County School Population More Than Six States

The school enrollment in Los Angeles county far exceeds the total population of at least six states in the United States, according to a report by A. R. Clifton, county superintendent of schools, on file this week with the board of supervisors.

These pupils are divided among 459 kindergartens, 611 elementary schools, 51 junior high schools, 21 junior-senior high schools, 52 senior and four-year schools, 42 separate evening high schools, four high schools maintaining junior college courses and five junior colleges.

There are 138 districts in the county for which budgets must be approved by the superintendent's office. The total budget expenditures for all of the county's school districts for the year 1937-38 was approximately \$55,379,800.

Huge discs of stone are used for money on the island of Yap.

## CAT CAUSES CRASH

### Claws Crumb; Car Climbs Curb to Collapse City Candelabra

The next time Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Crumb of 3501 Torrance boulevard go for a drive with their cat they won't.

Pussy was the cause of a costly auto accident last Sunday morning about 10 o'clock. The Crumbs were proceeding west on Torrance boulevard and just after crossing the railroad tracks on Madrid avenue, Puss, felt the urge for exercise.

She escaped from Mrs. Crumb's arms, clawed at Crumb who took his hands off the steering wheel to resist Puss's advances.

Just then the car jumped the curb and struck an ornamental light standard. The impact threw Mrs. Crumb against the windshield, breaking her nose and badly damaging the car. The light standard toppled to a 50 degree angle. The cat got away.

Several hours later Puss was found industriously washing her face at the Crumb home. Crumb began making arrangements to pay for the damage to city property.

## Support Urged On Transit Bill

Civic organizations and traffic groups interested in solving the transportation and traffic problems in and around Los Angeles were urged today to "suggest improvements in Assembly Bill 693 or get behind it for passage after the interim," by George A. Heap, director of the Greater Los Angeles Rapid Transit Association, Inc.

"The bill is merely an enabling act to permit a group of cities in a metropolitan district to vote themselves into a transportation district," Heap said. "Then it would be up to the district to adopt a unified transportation plan."

The bill was introduced by Assemblyman Thomas J. Doyle, with Assemblyman Fred Reeves of San Pedro, Jack B. Tenny of Inglewood, John B. Pelletier of Boyle Heights and Henry P. Meahan of Oakland as co-authors. Heap said the Metropolitan Transportation Act of 1939 is the result of three years of study and consultation with traffic and transportation experts and attorneys, but suggestions for improvement will be welcomed.

## Carrier Service in Lomita Denied

Following a review of the application by Postmaster Birda Paddock for carrier service in Lomita, the request was denied this week by the postal inspector. The postal official pointed out that the U. S. Postoffice Department is intent on cutting down expenses and limiting mounted and bicycle routes. He said that Lomita did not have sufficient population or enough built-in area at the present time to justify carrier service.

## 'Prospect' Takes Tires on 'Try-Out'

The next time a well-dressed man asks to "try-out" one of the used cars at Mullin's garage at 1133 Border avenue, Arthur Mullin or his daughter, Edna, will go along on the test-run.

They lost five new tires from a "trial drive" given one of their used machines this week.

The Mullins could only give a sketchy description of the "honest-appearing" man who strolled into their used car room Monday morning and asked to try out one of the machines on display. Mullin was busy and so was Edna and they let him take the car out.

When the prospective buyer failed to return at nightfall, Mullin asked police to broadcast a description of the stolen car. Yesterday morning police learned that the machine could be found at Riverside-Redondo road and Hawthorne boulevard.

It was there—but the five new tires on it had been replaced with worn-out casings. The thief, according to police and sheriff's officers, is working on this racket in a number of other Southland cities.

Antiques Fill Two Homes CINCINNATI, O. (U.P.)—Antiques have so over-crowded the home of Harry Vorbroker, that he had to buy a new home to take care of the overflow.

## Wooldridge Herald Circulation Mgr. Writes

A man who has no enemies, has no friends.

Justice Lessing immediately (Continued on Page 6-B)

## BIG NEWS FOR MODEL AIRPLANE BUILDERS!




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#### RULES

- (1) Contest open to anyone residing in Torrance or vicinity.
- (2) Contest starts today (Feb. 9); closes Wed., March 8.
- (3) Materials or kits MUST be purchased from us on or after today, Feb. 9, and may not be lower in price than 25c.

#### RULES

- (4) Entries will be judged on skill of assembly, neatness and all around excellence.
- (5) All entries remain the property of entrant; but all entries must be in our hands for judging not later than Wednesday, March 8.
- (6) Awards consist of \$3.00 First Prize, \$2.00 Second Prize, \$1.00 Third Prize. Next Five Prizes ... Each a 50c Model Kit.

**ENTER NOW! CONTEST STARTS TODAY!**

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